Docket No.: 826.1791

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Nobuyuki NEMOTO et al.

Serial No. 10/078,488 Group Art Unit: 2633

Confirmation No. 4891

Filed: February 21, 2002 Examiner: Agustin Bello

For: CONTROLLING SYSTEM FOR USE WITH VARIABLE ATTENUATORS

LETTER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attention: **BOX AF**

Sir:

As discussed in the Hearing of March 8, 2007, a mathematical error was made in calculations in an example used in the Reply Brief. Attached is a correction paragraph showing the deletions with strike through and the additions with underlining.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 9, 2007

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Correction to Reply Brief, page 3, second beginning paragraph

More concretely with respect to claim 3, assume that the attenuation amount predetermined value is set to 16dB (a relative value that is a ratio of the input optical power and the output optical power). In such a case if a light is applied to the attenuator input of 10000dB, the light output level from the attenuator would be 2516dB. If a light of 2000-10dB is applied the output level would be 50-16dB. The output level is dependent on the input level. In contrast, according to Ford if the output level is set to a predetermined level or existing level of -20dB (an absolute value, that is, the value of the optical power) and a light of 10dB is input to the adjustable optical transmission unit, the unit provides a loss of 20dB, making the output level -2120dB and when the input light is -10dB, the adjustable optical transmission unit provides a loss of 10dB resulting in an output level of -2120dB. As a result, in Ford, the output level is not dependent on the input level. The technique of claim 3 in setting the attenuation amount to a predetermined value is very different from the technique of Ford in setting an output level to a predetermined or existing value.